

7.24.11

Walking Dusty...

teacher: Dan Crist

Imagine you only had a week to live. What kind of things would you do? How would you spend your time? How would you spend your money? As believers, I think we would focus on doing the things that matter to God and seek to please Him.

Matthew 25:23 says: "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness.'" To Christians, this is what we hope to hear when we get to heaven. We hope that we spent time blessing others being the hands and feet of Jesus. We hope that the financial resources God blessed us with are spent in a way that pleases God. Hearing God's praise will be one of the best parts of heaven.

Mikvah is a gathering of water that is used to wash or attain purity. In the Jewish culture, it was ceremonially used to wash the head, heart, hands, and feet. Washing the head signifies the desire to bless God with our thoughts. Cleansing the heart means submitting to God's will, putting Him first. Washing the hands shows the work that we do is for God. Cleaning the feet symbolizes our journey, and the desire we have to want to be led by God.

Baptism is similar to mikvah. It's a public display announcing a believer's commitment to Jesus. It also represents washing away our sin. We spend every day doing something. Whether it's spending time on Facebook or volunteering at the Salvation Army, we choose how we spend our time. Baptism is doing something that pleases God. Once a Christian commits to serving Jesus, obeying God's commands shows that we love Him.

Questions to Consider (don't forget to listen to the podcast, if you haven't already):

The Greatest Commandment is "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37, 39) Although I don't have to be baptized to "prove" I love God, it is one way I can show it. How else can I show this?

To those getting baptized, Dan asks these three questions:

Do you believe in Jesus? Have you committed to Him as Lord and Savior?

Do you want to identify with Him?

Do you understand that the Holy Spirit is living inside you?

This month's memory verse: "Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account." - Hebrews 4:13

Additional verses: Acts 2:38, 41; Romans 6:2-10; Mark 1:9; Matthew 28:19; Titus 3:4 - 7

Reminders:

7.31 – BAPTISM BASH from 6:30-8:30 @ Bohn Pool!!! Want to get baptized!? There is no better way to wrap up a Family Fun Night than with people publicly professing their faith through baptism! Don't miss it!!!

8.7 – The Gathering @ Adrian Middle School 5-6 Building! Dustin will be teaching this week and bringing a powerful word from Scripture. We will also have a guest worship leader, so make sure you are there, as this night has all the right components of a very meaningful time together!